

# Overview of City Government Organization

Mark B. Jinks
City Manager





#### City's Form of Government

- Council-Manager form of government
- City Council elected to 3-year term;
   all at-large
  - Mayor
    - Presides over Council meetings
    - Ceremonial head of government
    - May vote but may not make motions or veto
    - Represents City
    - Exercises Leadership
    - Undertakes Initiatives
    - Community Voice
  - Vice Mayor selected by Council at Organizational/First Meeting of Council term



### **Alexandria City Council**





Canek Aguirre Council Member



Justin M. Wilson Mayor



Elizabeth Bennett-Parker Vice Mayor



Mo Seifeldein Council Member



John T. Chapman Council Member



Amy Jackson Council Member



Redella S. "Del" Pepper Council Member



#### **Roles & Responsibilities**

- City Council
  - Policy-making and legislative body for City government
  - Adopts annual budget and sets tax rates
  - Establishes land use policies and zoning; authorizes land acquisition, development and "special uses."
  - Appoints City Manager, City Attorney, and City Clerk
  - Appoints members of Boards and Commissions
  - Authorizes issuance of bonds

#### **Roles & Responsibilities**

- Council-Manager Form of Government
  - Derived from Progressive, anti-corruption movements of the early 20<sup>th</sup> century
  - First established in Staunton, VA in 1908
  - Alexandria City Manager position created in 1922
  - Research has shown that cities with Council-Manager form of government are more prosperous and more efficient
  - City Manager
    - Serves at Council's pleasure
    - Non-partisan, non-political
    - Professionally educated, trained, and experienced
    - Operates under ICMA Code of Ethics





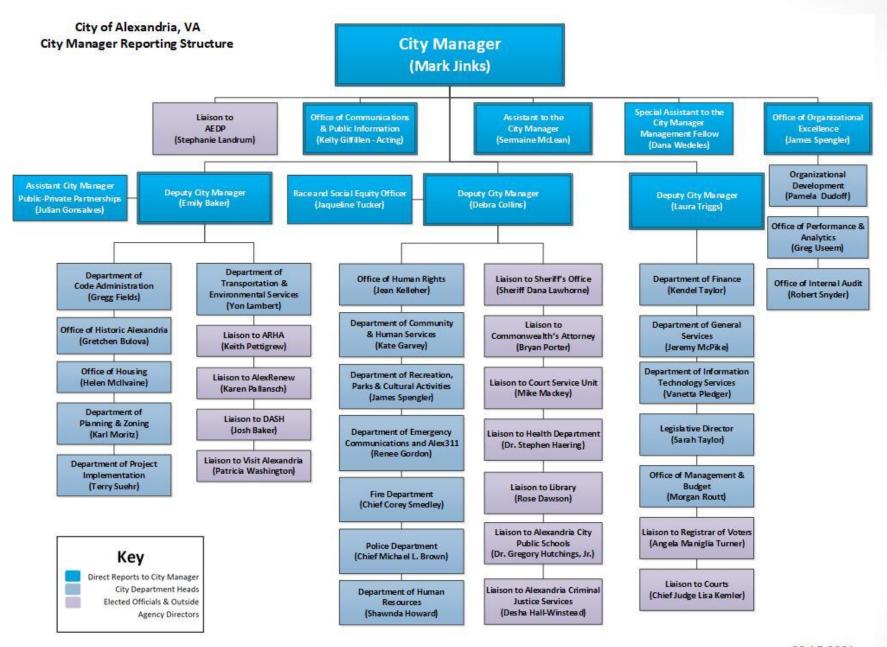
#### **Roles & Responsibilities**

- City Manager
  - Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the City
  - Responsible for day-to-day operations of City government
  - Appoints department heads and City employees
  - Establishes docket for Council meetings
  - Helps City Council translate vision into actions
  - Proposes policies and makes recommendations to Council
  - Proposes operating budget, tax rates and 10year capital improvement program
  - Approves Administrative Regulations



- 22 City departments and offices report to City Manager
- Sheriff's Office, Commonwealth's Attorney, Clerk of Courts elected
- Approximately 2,500 full-time and about 600 part-time/seasonal employees
- City works closely with other City related agencies
  - Alexandria City Public Schools
  - Alexandria Redevelopment and Housing Authority
  - Alexandria Renew Enterprises
  - Alexandria Economic Development Partnership
  - Visit Alexandria
  - DASH (Alexandria Transit Company)
  - Libraries, Health, Courts, Registrar of Voters







#### **Residents/Customers/Clients**



**Supervisors and Managers** 

**Department Heads** 





RESPONSIBLE/ACCOUNTABLE



#### Mission/Vision/Values

In City government, our **MISSION** defines what we do for our community, our **VISION** is where we are headed as an organization, and our **VALUES** guide our actions and decisions.

- **Mission:** Working together to foster a thriving Alexandria.
- Vision: A culture that supports each of us and inspires excellence.
- Values: Respect, Integrity, Teamwork and Continuous Improvement







- Respect: We are open minded and treat all people with dignity.
  - We embrace diversity and welcome individual perspectives, backgrounds and opinions.
  - We listen to each other and exhibit civility.
  - We are trusted to use judgement, take risks and make decisions.
  - We support well-being and life balance.





- Integrity: We are thoughtful stewards of the public's trust.
  - We are honest and fair in all interactions.
  - We are strategic and transparent about how we make decisions.
  - We follow through on our commitments.
  - We hold ourselves accountable for decisions and actions.



- Teamwork: We do great things together.
  - We collaborate and actively seek different perspectives.
  - We view our community as a partner and respect its input.
  - We share information up, down and sideways.
  - We celebrate and recognize our collective and individual successes.



- Continuous Improvement: We challenge ourselves to learn and grow.
  - We encourage innovation and creativity.
  - We support professional and personal growth and development.
  - We question the status quo and constantly seek to improve organizational effectiveness.
  - We invest in people as our most valuable asset.



# **Questions?**

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alexandriava.gov/CityManager